

REMARKS

The above-identified patent application has been amended and entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.116.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. Claims 7, 9, 12, and 14-17 are amended herein and claims 1-6, 13, and 18-19 are cancelled herein without prejudice.

Claim 20 is allowed.

Claims 1-12, 14, and 16-19 were rejected as being obvious over Archibald, Jr. et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0184580) in view of Thompson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,609,145). Applicants have cancelled claims 1-6 and 18-19 without prejudice and have amended dependent claims 7, 12, and 14-17 so that dependent claims 7-12 and 14-17 now depend from allowed claim 20.

In view of the above, it is submitted that dependent claims 7-12 and 14-17 are allowable as depending on allowed claim 20.

As claims 7-12, 14-17, and 20 and the entire case are believed to be in condition for allowance, an early indication thereof is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigning attorney if there are any questions regarding this Amendment or this application.

Applicants do not acquiesce to any assertion made by the Examiner that is not specifically addressed herein.

It is submitted that this amendment places the application in condition for allowance or better form for appeal by restricting the issues on appeal, and thus, entry of this amendment is respectfully requested under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.116.

The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 500845.

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Respectfully submitted,

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